

Willits Weekly

Online & Print



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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Thursday, May 25, 2023

City appoints members to public art committee

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
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The Willits City Council at the May 10 meeting appointed four members to the new Art in Public Spaces Committee, appointing Judy Fisch, Margaret Guhde, Gary Martin and Dan Miller.

The advisory committee is charged with reviewing and making a recommendation for the council's benefit when considering donated artwork for placement on city properties / facilities.

The city council will make the final decision on any public art proposals. Back in May 2022, the council approved guidelines for approving public art, "the Public Art and Donation Policy."

Some of the elements advisory committee and city council members must consider in deciding whether a proposal suits city policy are that the artwork:

- Is thought-provoking, memorable or enduring and reflects the diverse social, cultural, or historic values of the city;
- Is appropriate for the proposed location in terms of scale, form, design or

Read the rest of **Committee**
Over on Page 9

Covelo man convicted of 2nd degree murder

Posted by Mendocino County District Attorney

A Mendocino County jury returned within the first hour of the new work week May 22 to announce it had found the trial defendant guilty almost as charged.

Defendant Dino Blackbear Lincoln, also known as Dino Michael Blackbear, age 36 of Covelo, was found guilty of murder in the second degree and felony reckless evading a peace officer.

Lincoln was charged with shooting Kenneth Whipple on September 15, 2021 outside the Buckhorn Bar in Covelo.

The jury also found true a special allegation alleged that the defendant personally and intentionally discharged a firearm, said discharge causing the death of another person.

The jury returned a guilty verdict of misdemeanor simple assault, a lesser included crime to the charged crime of felony assault with a motor vehicle.

The jury began its deliberations late afternoon Friday and returned to complete their review of the evidence and applicable

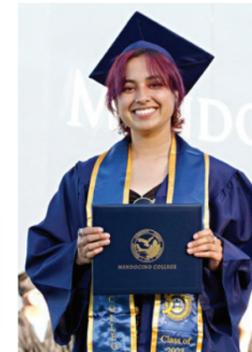
Read the rest of **Murder**
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Above, from left: Alejandro Corona was covered in flowers, balloons and family after the 2023 Mendocino College graduation ceremony. Diploma covers were handed out to each graduate. Aly Mazzanti, left, smiles with friends Emerald Waters, Joyce Waters and Wayne Waters to show support for Emerald's boyfriend and graduate, John Foucault. Below: Trenton Ramos celebrates on the stage.



Photos by Maureen Jennison



Above, from left: Graduates hold their diplomas and smile for the camera.

At right: Mendocino College Superintendent and president Timothy Karas speaks at the podium at the 50th anniversary and graduation ceremony.

At right, below: Dignitaries smile together including, from left: Robert Jason Pinoli, TeMashio Anderson, Xochilt Martinez, Eileen Cichocki, Noel O'Neill, Barbara Rice, Marie I. Myers, and Superintendent and President Timothy Karas.



College Graduates

Mendocino College celebrates the achievements of 337 graduates with annual graduation ceremony

The field at Mendocino College's Ukiah Campus was filled with family and friends last Friday for the commencement ceremony to watch as some 337 graduates accepted their diplomas. See page 11 for a list of the Mendocino College Class of 2023. See photos: <https://photographpress.zenfolio.com/mendoccollege>



Above, from left: Graduates hold their diplomas they received at the 2023 Mendocino College graduation ceremony. Below, from left: Martin D. Martinez III gives a land blessing before the ceremony. Two grads peek out of the line to smile at the camera. Student speaker Alexis Ann Duckett graduated with three degrees; two Associate of Arts, one in Ethnic Studies and one in Liberal Arts and Sciences with an emphases on social science, and an Associate of Science in Administration of Justice.



Cannabis advocates happy with 'streamlining'

Forrest Glyer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

At meetings on Monday and Tuesday, county supervisors approved multiple items aimed at significantly streamlining the cannabis application process for those in the program, much to the delight of many in the community who spoke at the meetings and were encouraged by what they saw as long-needed changes.

The items included an urgency ordinance, No. 4522, passed by the board at their regular meeting on Tuesday, amending Mendocino County's current 10A.17 cannabis ordinance to cede more environmental and regulation oversight to state agencies, and get rid of duplicative processes at the county level.

At a special meeting Monday afternoon, the board also approved a budget amendment for Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant Program money from the state, adding a \$5 million allotment for a county environmental impact report to help with applicant reviews.

The board immediately Read more of **Advocates**
Over on Page 2

CHP out in force this holiday weekend

Submitted by CHP

Sacramento – Memorial Day weekend is quickly approaching, and many Californians are preparing to kick off the summer with a holiday gathering or road trip. Forty-five people were killed in crashes in California during last year's Memorial Day weekend, nearly a 30 percent increase from the same period in 2021.

The California Highway Patrol has a plan to help people arrive to their destinations safely, while reducing the number of deadly crashes on the state's roads.

Beginning at 6:01 pm on Friday, May 26, the CHP will implement a statewide Maximum Enforcement Period in anticipation of the increased traffic that often accompanies a holiday weekend. The MEP will continue through 11:59 pm on Monday, May 29.

"The core mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of 'Safety, Service, and Security' to the communities we serve," said CHP Commissioner Sean Durayee. "This holiday, motorists can expect to see additional CHP officers patrolling California's roadways. All available

Read the rest of **CHP**
Over on Page 4

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Memorial Day Ceremonies 2023

To the Editor:

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2023, American Legion Post 174 will be conducting memorial ceremonies at:

- Willits Cemetery at 10 am (Highway 20 West)
- Little Lake Cemetery at 11 am (East Hill Road)

Please join us as we pay tribute to our departed comrades in arms.

Roger Ham, American Legion Post 174

Dangerous tree on Sherwood Road

To the Editor:

The Mendocino County Department of Transportation has received notice of a dangerous tree on Sherwood Road. The tree is a dead Douglas fir approximately 18 inches in diameter a few hundred feet north of the Sherwood Road/ Willits City Limits sign, located on the west side of the road.

The tree continues to lean further and further directly toward the Sherwood Road. A traffic stoppage is needed to remove it. Action is needed immediately as the tree is weak and deadly if it falls.

Please call the DOT at 707-463-4363 to report this hazard. Thank you.

John Wagenet, Willits

Food and garden excellence

To the Editor:

To the Willits City Council: Greetings. This letter is about our food supply. Right now, the highway brings most of the food we eat to Willits. If the highway stops bringing food to us, we will starve and fall apart. Willits will turn into a very unpleasant place to be. NO FOOD NO PEACE. Never put all your eggs into one basket. Or one source of food supplies.

This is a difficult subject to bring up as our political leaders do not want to touch this with a 10-foot pole. However many other people are very worried about events in the wide world bringing havoc to our small community. I am asking the city council to address this right away. If we get cut off from our transportation of food via trucks and the highway, there will be no safe place that will shelter the weak, the old, women, and kids from hordes of hungry angry people.

This stinks and I don't like it at all. WE can and must look the future in the face and act to protect ourselves from perceived threats. If we have food we have time ... the most valuable thing you can have in a real emergency. Time to figure out what to do.

What to do. Turn Willits into the Garden Capital of Northern California. This will solve our food problem, as the whole of our population can and should plant gardens everywhere we can. There should be a person appointed by the council who is directly responsible to see that we have adequate supplies on hand for at least 6 months and feeding stations all set up if needed. This person also is a director of food supplies and planning for taking care of ourselves for an extended time if we must do so.

WE don't have to do this, but we will benefit a lot from looking after ourselves and be a stronger and more viable community who would have something wholesome to rally around. Willits should become a culinary place of excellence and rally around food excellence. Have a new place in the sun, be a garden center and a food center and a place of cultural food excellence.

Build a new Willits that seeks the high road. Grow food or don't eat – your choice. It might come down to that, and we would be fools for not admitting it and trying to do something about it.

Keith Rosen, Willits

The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and Third District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the Third District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once every four weeks.

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

Willits Weekly

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'Promoting tourism' can bring harm

To the Editor:

It would be nice to have an extra route to 101, BUT.... Be very careful what you wish for, and think long and hard before you lose the beauty of Willits forever.

Being a California native, born in San Diego, and having lived in nine of our 14 coastal counties, plus South Tahoe, and having lived and worked much in tourist/ hospitality industry, from most menial positions to office manager, I have been witness to the harm, many times over, of what being a tourist destination has done to many of what used to be our most precious communities. Here are just a few personal examples.

South Tahoe always had its casinos and ski slopes and was a great place when I was in high school and had my first jobs there in the '60s. Now it's just another tourist hell. Sure, much of the natural beauty is still there, but community long gone.

Mendo coast, where I lived and worked from Elk to Cleone, has been sad to watch the demise of, as people began to celebrate such things as arrival of Starbucks as a boon to life and catching up with the rest of the world, to the detriment of places such as Headlands Coffee House – no longer having its former community spirit. Of course, a beautiful coastline is still there. But we are talking about community, of which Elk to Cleone was a tight-knit string, each a whole in itself, all joining as one in spirit, attending each other's celebrations. All that now faded and fractionalized.

Greenwood Pier Inn, where I worked, has gone through two or three owners since. None successful, as they try to "promote" and make it just like all the other high-priced-spread tourist destinations. They paved over lovingly attended gardens, never were part of community, and have now bought out Bridget Dolan's and are in the process of making that property the same. Driving through is a pretty dead picture.

I've watched global investors buy up and mess up, one by one, communities along the coast (Point Arena another). Carmel, a lovely artist community, turned into T-shirt and souvenir shops.

I fell in love with Petaluma in 1993, a super sweet town of 50,000 with a friendly small town vibe. When my daughter was living in Oakland and pregnant she told me she wanted to raise her baby somewhere like where she grew up. So, I left the Mendo coast and moved to Petaluma with her. A local farm girl was our very cool mayor then, but now all the city council cares about is bringing \$\$\$ to town. Sadly again, now it is a weekend destination, seemingly for the whole damn Bay Area. Locals cannot get into or through downtown on weekends, or on any day in summer anymore. So, I escaped (?) back up here, to the sweet community of Willits, and what do I find? This insane obsession with "promoting" tourism.

Before Mendo coast I lived and worked in Big Sur for eight years. When Big Sur River Inn, where I was office manager, decided to raise room rates, I questioned it. Owners said it was to be in step with "what the market will bear." Raising room rates did not bring more \$\$\$, but fewer guests; breaking even, as people thought it too expensive, so they'd make it a day trip with picnic, or eat and stay at either end of the glorious coastal drive.

Used to be all the gas stations were hosted by locals who would fill your tank for you and chat about the best of Big Sur, the "must sees" not in tourist guides or on maps. Of course, they were replaced with push your card in the slot pumps and go.

What happened by degree, as with the whole coast (except for maybe Humboldt, fingers crossed) is Big Sur lost its heart, lost its spirit, lost its local flavor and color. It lost its soul!!! But there's still a beautiful coast to drive, even though Highway 1 looks more like a conveyor belt now.

Put really bluntly, "promoting tourism" is an extremely STUPID idea, the reality of which destroys all that is or was "good for community." Going for the \$\$\$ is not a wise path for community. It cannot win, only lose.

Better to be an exemplary community, keeping global investors (you know, the ones who killed the pot industry) at arm's length, while warmly welcoming tourists who "happen" to wander in, who will then word-of-mouth it to their friends. The best connections are made that way.

We should be concentrating on how to build a strong local economy, without promoting the tourist industry. Did we learn nothing from COVID panic-endemic, the first few weeks of which pollution reduction, majority caused by tourist industry, plummeted by 85%?

Let us find our unique way to be a happy, healthy, self-reliant community equipped to survive the next great crisis, when the "s--- hits the fan," which you know it will. \$\$\$ will not save us! Community will!

Michael Allen, Willits

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Price is \$7.

Thursday, May 25: Pastrami on Rye, Macaroni Salad

Friday, May 26: Turkey Dinner, Dressing w/ Gravy, Cranberry, Veggie

Monday, May 29: Center closed for Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 30: Tuna Salad Sandwich, Macaroni Salad

Wednesday, May 31: Italian Sub, Chips, Green Salad

Thursday, June 1: Turkey a la King, Green Salad, Roll

Friday, June 2: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Veggie, Roll

Activities: Bingo every Friday night, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday morning from 9 to 10 am.

Pancake Breakfast every second Sunday, 8 to 11 am.

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to help with the many activities here at the center, including volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers. "Volunteers are one-third of our workforce, which allows us to offer many services to our members and community." To learn more about volunteering: 459-6826.

More of Advocates | From page 1

followed that action by approving a \$5 million contract with Ascent Environmental, Inc., for "environmental planning" of the EIR, to be paid for with the state grant.

All the items were passed unanimously, and many in the public and on the board expressed optimism about the new direction the county was heading with the cannabis program through utilizing the help of the state, including Mendocino Cannabis Alliance Executive Director Michael Katz.

"Just three months ago the changes that have been adopted over the past two days would have been unimaginable," Katz said at the Tuesday meeting. "And to see the speed and the efforts that have gone into significantly streamlining the ordinance, adjusting the LJAGP program ... all the effort and energy coming from the administration of the Mendocino Cannabis Department, and the county and the state working together.

"This is exactly what the best case scenario of what can happen when we all listen to each other and work together," Katz said. "And so the cannabis community sincerely appreciates these changes, and we look forward to moving forward together and continuing to address items as they come up. Thank you so much."

As mentioned in previous discussions by board members, the EIR was something that was encouraged by the state's Department of Cannabis Control to help speed up environmental reviews, after the county requested help from the state in improving their beleaguered cannabis program back in March.

The DCC agreed to help the county, but asked that they pause their LJAGP spending plans, until they and the state could figure out the best way to move forward.

The EIR contract with Ascent approved Monday stipulates that the company will "prepare site-specific environmental documents ... for any and all annual cultivation licenses to be issued by DCC, or that DCC is considering whether to issue, to current

Read the rest of Advocates | Over on page 11

FEMA centers can help with February / March storm damage

Submitted by Mendocino County Executive Office

FEMA's full Disaster Recovery Center remains open in Willits, for residents impacted by the February / March 2023 Winter Storms. State agencies and the Small Business Administration are also present. The center is open Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 6 pm, at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, through Friday, June 2.

Residents who were affected by the winter storm disaster can register, update their FEMA applications, and learn about state and community programs and other available assistance at the center.

A FEMA Mobile Registration Intake Center is operating in Laytonville, Leggett, and Piercy to register residents for FEMA Individual Assistance. In Laytonville, the center is at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, is open 9 am to 6 pm – the last two days are currently

Thursday, May 25 and Friday, May 26.

In Piercy, the center is at the Piercy Community Center, 80651 Highway 271, Monday, May 29 (open on Memorial Day) and Tuesday, May 30 from 9 am to 6 pm.

In Leggett, the center is at The Peg House, 69501 US-101, on Wednesday, May 31 through Friday, June 2, from 9 am to 6 pm.

Residents do not need to visit a Disaster Recovery Center or Mobile Registration Intake Center to apply. Here are other ways to apply:

Go to www.disasterassistance.gov, use the FEMA mobile app, or call the FEMA Helpline at 1-800-621-3362. Helpline operators are available from 7 am to 11 pm daily. For an accessible video on how to apply, go to youtube.com/watch?v=WZGpW12RCNw.



Above, from left: By 10 am the Willits Grateful Gleaners sale is crowded with gardeners looking for starts. Donna d'Torra of Motherland and her helper Sheridan Alman brought medicinal herbs to distribute to people. Third District Supervisor John Haschak needs a wagon to move his haul to the car. At right: Experienced gardeners John and Cynthia Jeavons find some deals on starts. At right, below, left: Willits City Councilmember Madge Strong lends her property each year for the sale. At right, below, right: Young Kaya finds some flowers to bring home. At right, further below: Kami Lenn donated some of her starts to the Gleaners sale. At right, bottom: Sonja Marie, health practitioner, came to find some good deals on plant starts.

Community Bounty

Beautiful weather, smiling faces, and plants abound at Willits Grateful Gleaners annual sale

On a warm, clear Sunday morning, the Willits Grateful Gleaners had a sale which was seemingly enjoyed by a good portion of the town's gardeners, many of whom lined up prior to the 10 am start in order to get their choice of herb, vegetable and flower starts with which to get a head start on this year's gardens.

Staged at Willits City Councilmember Madge Strong's yard, as it has been for several years, the scene was seemingly chaotic with all the gardeners wanting to find what they needed, but realistically amiable as the prospective growers gathered and conversed and traded hints as to how to get the most production from their plots.

"This is a great turnout," said young but longtime Gleaner Prana Roberts. "We have plants from so many community members that have donated this year. It's really wonderful. Some people bring five plants. Some people bring 50. Karen Gridley brought tables-worth of plants, mostly perennials from her garden. Tam Adams, of Emandal, brought a ton of tomatoes and also hot peppers. We have gorgeous tomatoes and zinnias from the Commonwealth Gardens at the hospital.

"I could not even list all the people who have donated to the sale," said Roberts. "Golden Rule Gardens brought some amazing sages and blackberries. I had to hold people off until one minute to 10 am. There was already a line of people at 10 minutes to 10."

The sale was popular indeed. It ended up bringing in \$3,800, more than any other year.

"This wonderful annual plant sale is going on at my house as it always does, right at this beautiful occasion on this beautiful day," beamed Strong. "There's lots of people excited about having their home gardens beautified and enriched. This is a perfect day, a little breeze, a little shade."

"This is one of the great events of the year," said longtime Gleaner Wolfgang Ronnefeldt. "My dear wife has gotten maybe 300 plants out of our garden for this event. Every year she sighs and says she not going to do it again and every year, before you know it, you go out to the garden, she does one thing after another, and it's just magnificent."

Gleaning began in feudal societies amongst the poor, landless residents. They were allowed to pick over the crops that remained after the fields were harvested. The Willits Grateful Gleaners began several years ago and was connected to the Little Lake Grange and the Willits Economic Localization as a project to help make Willits

more sustainable.

The organizers, Carol Cox, Karen Gridley and Marilyn Boosinger, saw all the fruit and vegetables that were going to waste, without anyone to harvest the trees. They decided to form the Gleaners in order to mitigate this lack of attention or ability to utilize the produce that was remaining on the trees.

The Gleaners donate their harvest to several charitable organizations, among which are the Food Bank, Willits Daily Bread, the Willits High School kitchen (from where it is distributed to other schools in the district), the Caring Kitchen (which provides meals for cancer patients), both the charter schools (WECS and WCS), and the Kids Club. Any money that is generated by the annual plant sale (after annual expenses) is donated to local farmers to help provide food security to the area.

"We don't start officially gleaning until usually around June," explained Roberts. "There's one woman up on Sherwood Road who has cherry trees that we harvest. Hers are in late June. That's the first we do and then plums are after that, and then there's usually a little break, and then we do apples and pears.

"We're open for anyone to call who has fruit for us to glean," said Roberts. "If it's one tree or 10 trees, we can handle it all. The last couple years we've been getting over 2,000 pounds of fruit during the season, that we're donating to the Senior Center, the Food Bank, schools.

"It feels really good and it's amazing to go into people's orchards, where they've been living here for 30 years and they've planted the trees and they know the entire history of the tree and where it came from. There are people who have brought trees from their family orchard in Southern California that are now up here. There's a lot of wonderful history in the plants and fruit trees of Willits," Roberts said.

According to Ronnefeldt, the Willits Grateful Gleaners are in need of young volunteers who are passionate about food and feeding people, and are able to do the physical work of climbing ladders to get at the fruit and hauling filled boxes. Anyone interested in becoming part of this altruistic outdoor community, please call 707-367-7391 or email gratefulgleanersofwillits@gmail.com.

"What a beautiful day for the garden sale," said Tamara Alaniz, Brooktrails city manager. "They do so much for the community, but to be able to have this kind of weather for their sale, which is their big fundraiser of the year, I think is absolutely wonderful. I got all my starts here. I got peppers and tomatoes, but there's so much more in there. Lots of flowers, too."



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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



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Level: Beginner

HOW TO SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

ROLE MODEL WORD SEARCH

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CLUES ACROSS

- Sloping position
- Descendant of a notable family
- Following accepted norms
- Root vegetable
- Having a shape that reduces drag on air
- Integrated circuit
- Records electric currents of the heart
- Used to anoint
- Japanese city
- After B
- Muffles
- Pass over
- Vase
- Soft touch
- A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Israeli politician
- Degrade
- Type of wrap
- Polyurethane fabric
- Avoids capture
- Vegetarians avoid it
- Decay
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Vessel to bathe in

CLUES DOWN

- Hill or rocky peak
- Initial public offering
- Type of light
- Test
- Flaky coverings
- Former NFLer Newton
- Part of the eye
- Roman god of the underworld
- Negative
- Indiana pro basketball player
- Replaces lost tissue
- Denotes one

- From whom title is taken
- Historic college hoops tournament
- Hut by a swimming pool
- Defunct European monetary unit
- Needs on insects
- Adult male
- Melancholic
- Sheets of glass
- Slang for famous person
- Not good
- 'Ghetto Superstar' singer
- The 'World' is one
- Used to make guacamole
- Midway between south and southwest
- Wet dirt
- Ancient Egyptian name
- Set of four
- Strips
- Wife
- More dried-up
- Socially inept person
- Clusters on fern fronds
- Bar bill
- Prefix indicating 'away from'
- Very important person
- Fiddler crabs
- Special therapy

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

April 24 to April 30

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **75 incidents** in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

April 24

12:21 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of North Main Street and State Street and issued a citation.

8:47 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

10:13 pm: SILVA, Haley Lynn Shirley (31) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Manor Way. She was arrested pursuant to 242 PC (Battery) and on misdemeanor charges of assault, driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher, driving with a suspended license revoked for DUI, battery against an officer, resisting an officer, and violation of probation.

10:13 pm: SILVA, Buck James (35) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Manor Way. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of assault and battery.

9:28 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of Margie Drive.

11:50 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East Oak Street and issued a warning.

April 25

3:49 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

April 26

12:54 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

10:58 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Williams Street.

11:07 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

1:56 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

3:36 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

8:47 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Coast Street and West Highway 20 and issued a citation.

10:22 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

12:22 am: DEATON, Michael Duane (39) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of disobeying a court order and possession of drug paraphernalia.

7:32 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

8:06 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

10:44 pm: VERDOT, Cheyenne Rochelle (27) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of East Oak Street and South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 459.5 PC (Shoplifting), 182 PC (Criminal Conspiracy), 135 PC (Destroying or Concealing Evidence), 496 PC (Receiving Stolen Property), and on misdemeanor charges of burglary.

10:44 pm: PARKER, William Dustin (31) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of East Oak Street and South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 182 PC (Criminal Conspiracy), 31 PC (Aiding and Abetting), 135 PC (Destroying or Concealing Evidence), 485 PC (Theft or Misappropriation of Lost Property), and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance and violation of probation.

7:38 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

11:47 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Holly Street and Magnolia Avenue and issued a citation.

4:49 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

9:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

11:47 pm: SPURLING, Michael Clifford (19) of Ukiah was contacted in the 200 block of Margie Drive. He was arrested pursuant to 272 PC (Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor), 273 (A) PC (Child Endangerment), 288.2 (A) (1) PC (Harmful Matter Sent to Seduce a Minor), 647.6 (A) (1) PC (Annoying or Molesting a Child), and on felony charges of cruelty to a child (inflicting injury).

Read the rest of **Walk** Over on page 12

The rest of **CHP** From page 1

uniformed members of this Department will be on patrol during this Memorial Day MEP. Our primary focus will be to enhance public safety, deter unsafe driving behavior, and when necessary, take appropriate enforcement action."

In addition to assisting motorists and looking for traffic violations that often lead to serious injury or death, such as failure to wear a seat belt, speed, and distracted driving, CHP officers will be paying close attention to people who are suspected of driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

CHP officers made nearly 900 DUI arrests during the Memorial Day MEP in

2022. Keep yourself and others who are on the road safe by designating a sober driver or using a ride-share service.

If you see or suspect an impaired driver, call 9-1-1 immediately. Be prepared to provide the dispatcher a description of the vehicle, the license plate number, location, and direction of travel. Your phone call may save someone's life.

The CHP's Memorial Day MEP coincides with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's ongoing Click It or Ticket campaign, which continues through June 4. Seat belts save lives. Take two seconds to secure your safety and buckle up.

Looking for something to celebrate? Learn more about these, or see a list of other days at <https://www.listofnationaldays.com/>

May 25: National Brown-Bag It Day, National Missing Children's Day, National Tap Dance Day, National Wine Day, Towel Day, Ghetto Pride Day, Global Africa Day, International Plastic Free Day, International Skin Pigmentation Day, May Revolution Day, National Bath Bomb Day, National Sing Out Day

May 26: National Blueberry Cheesecake Day, World Lindy Hop Day, Dracula Day, Earring Lovers Day, Don't Fry Day, National Cherry Dessert Day, National Heat Awareness Day, National Paper Airplane Day, World Redhead Day

May 27: National Cellophane Tape Day, National Grape Popsicle Day, Sunscreen Day, National Hairstylist Mental Health Awareness Day, Nothing To Fear Day, National Gray Day

May 28: National Brisket Day, National Hamburger Day, Amnesty International

Day, Menstrual Hygiene Day, International Day Of Action On Women's Health, Whooping Crane Day, World Hunger Day

May 29: National Coq Au Vin Day, National Paperclip Day, Learn About Composting Day, Biscuit Day, International Day Of United Nations Peacekeepers, Mount Everest Day, National Alligator Day, National Snail Day, World Digestive Health Day

May 30: National Nail Tech Day, National Hole In My Bucket Day, Jump Rope Day, National Mint Julep Day, National Water A Flower Day, National Creativity Day

May 31: National Macaroon Day, National Save Your Hearing Day, World No Tobacco Day, Tulsa Race Massacre, National Meditation Day, National Smile Day, Web Designer Day, What You Think Upon Grows Day, World Parrot Day



Photo by Laura Corben

Post-fire Landscape

Nature enthusiasts tour Rancho Mariposa, a property damaged by Redwood Valley fire in 2017

On the night of October 8, 2017, Cathy Monroe was awakened at 1 am by a phone call from her nephew, ordering her to look out the window. She was shocked to see a glowing fire line along the ridge top between her family ranch and Potter Valley.

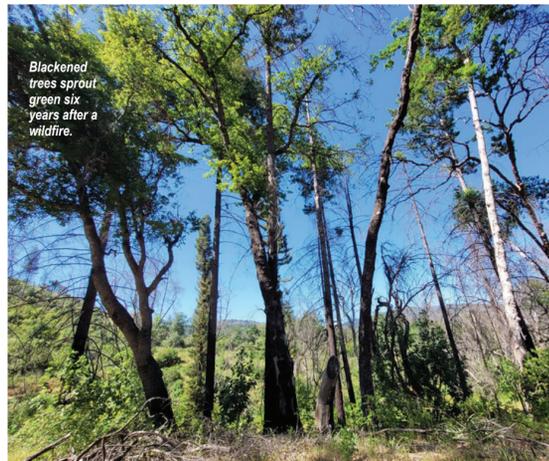
Throwing on her clothes, her mind raced. She would need to get out, but first she would need to open the gates for her animals. When the fire came, the animals would need to save themselves.

She called her brother, Tim, to alert him, and her neighbor, Kevin, came pounding on the door to make sure she knew the fire was coming. When she reached Tomki Road, her dog barked her, there was a steady line of cars inching along the normally quiet country road.

The plan was to get to West Road in Redwood Valley and make her way to the Eagle Peak Road to the evacuation center there. At the end of the driveway at Tomki, she realized there was an inferno in Redwood Valley, and it would be impossible to head south. The only option would be to drive the rugged back road 14 miles north on Tomki to the evacuation center in Willits.

"It felt like something out of the 'Twilight Zone,'" Monroe remembered. "We thought we'd be driving on the regular roads; instead I drove slowly, hoping my low-slung car would make it." The caravan of evacuees inched along through the dust and the smoke. Monroe and many of her family members and neighbors would lose their homes that night, in what would become known as the Mendocino-Lake Complex Fire.

Rancho Mariposa, the sprawling property that Monroe's parents purchased in 1959, and which is home to a number of her family members, is green and peaceful today. This beautiful ranch, still in the process of wildfire recovery, was an ideal place for a nature walk with Robin Carlson, author of "The Cold Canyon Fire Journals, Green Shoots and Silver Linings in the Ashes," who was invited to Willits by Ellen Drell of the Willits Environmental Center, which sponsored the author talk and nature walk.



Blackened trees sprout green six years after a wildfire.

MENDO COLLEGE GRADS!

pho•tog•ra•phress

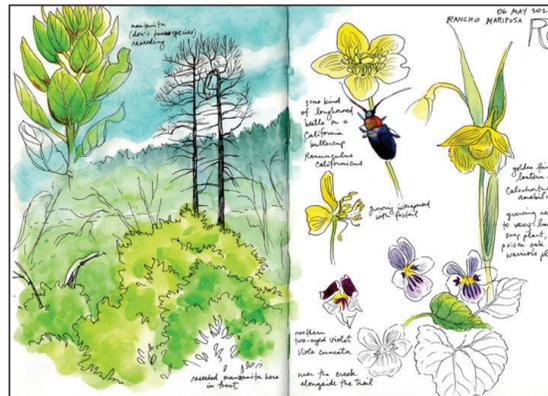
[uh-toog-ruh-friss]

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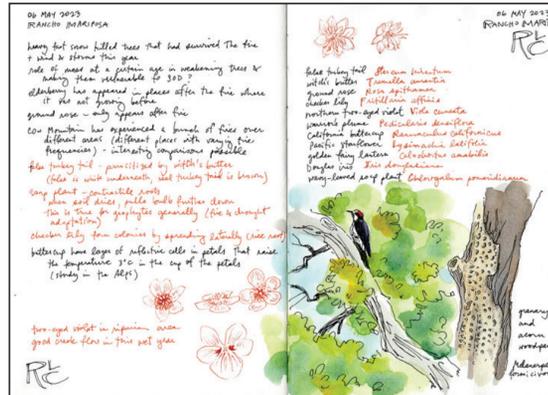
Above, left: Local nature lovers gather for a long morning's walk to view the landscape after five years of fire recovery.

Above: A journal sketch by Robin Carlson of post-fire manzanita seedlings.

At left: This painting by Cathy Monroe's niece Rose Easterbrook is of the Monroe Barn, which was lost to fire.

Below: A list of plant species noted by Robin Carlson at Rancho Mariposa, where the Redwood Complex fire swept through in 2017.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde



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COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Fast X'

The Story: A sequel to "Fast and Furious 9" with lots of explosions and shoot 'em ups and steroidal biceps, and tough chicks who kick lots of butt. Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel) is back, as are the rest of his family and friends. He is the Good Guy. He is very very selfless and good. Everyone in Dominic's family drives a Muscle Car.

The Bad Guy is Dante (Jason Momoa). He is a psychopath – a bragging, smirking, giggling, whining and then smirking again psychopath. Dante plans to kill Dominic's family members, one by one. Also, Dante wants to blow up the Vatican with a colossal rolling bowling ball of a bomb. He, too, sometimes drives a Muscle Car. And he blows up other people's Muscle Cars.

My Thoughts: Except for the violence, there's no sex in the flick. This is a Catholic movie. The names tell the story. Consider the hero Dominic Toretto. The Italian name Toretto means turret – a low, flat rotating defensively armored gun emplacement, also a pretty fair description of this flick's hero who is constantly on the 360 degree look-out for dangers to his Family.

And then we have St. Dominic. He was a 13th century Catholic priest who was a scourge of anti-Catholic heretics who preached that God was the creator of Evil. Then we have the Bad Guy's name "Dante," a moniker which always brings to mind all kinds of bad news about Hell and hopelessness.

Parents: This is a violent adult cartoon, like "Road Runner" for grown-ups. It's rated PG-13. The bad guy made me truly queasy. Not for children.

Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

Dan Essman
Columnist



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www.novoytheatre.com

Next Week:
SPIDER-MAN: Across the spider-verse

THE LITTLE MERMAID (2023)

(PG) 2 hrs 15 mins
Fri.: 4:00 & 7:00pm
Sat.-Mon.: 1:00, 4:00 & 7:00pm
Tues.-Thurs.: 4:00 & 7:00pm

Movie Times for May 26 thru June 1

FAST X

(PG13) 2 hrs 21 mins
Fri.: 5:00 & 8:00pm
Sat.-Mon.: 2:00, 5:00 & 8:00pm
Tues.-Thurs.: 5:00 & 8:00pm

Masks Optional

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY Vol. 3

(PG13) 2 hrs 30 mins
Fri.: 4:30 & 7:45pm
Sat.-Mon.: 1:15, 4:30 & 7:45pm
Tues.-Thurs.: 4:30 & 7:45pm
OVER 21 CLUB - Luxury Recliners

The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon

DIRECTED BY: BILLY HETHERINGTON
WILLITS CHARTER: 1431 S MAIN ST, WILLITS
DATES:
MAY 19TH, 20TH - 7PM
MAY 21ST - 2PM
MAY 26TH, 27TH - 7PM
MAY 28TH - 2PM
ENTRY: \$10 FOR ADULTS, \$5 FOR YOUTH UNDER 18 YEARS OLD

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A Talk with Blaire & Daniel AuClair

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM on Saturday, May 27th
In the Community Room at the Round Valley Branch Library

THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S BACK!

What's Happening Around Town

Thursday, May 25

Savings Bank Free Shred Event: Thursday, May 25 from 9 to 11 am, in the parking lot behind the Willits branch of Savings Bank of Mendocino County. Bring up to three 35-pound boxes of documents for safe, secure, on-site shredding. To help shred hunger, non-perishable food will be accepted for local food banks. Savings Bank representatives will be available at the shred events to supply information about preventing identity theft and what to do if your identity is stolen.

"A Touch of Mendocino:" A monthly speaker series at the Willits Library covering the local color and culture of Mendocino County, including food, art, history, crafts, and more. This month's talk, Thursday, May 25 from 11 am to 12 noon, is by Corine Pearce, a Pomo basket weaver from Redwood Valley, who will discuss and demonstrate the art and skill of basket weaving particular to the Pomo people. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 707-459-5908.

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market outdoors for the season on Main Street at the old Rexall parking lot. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales" story time from 3:30 to 4 pm.

Friday, May 26

"High Off the Land": Last chance in Willits this weekend to see the Willits Center for the Arts' new traveling exhibit, artists' interpretations of living with cannabis the last 50 years, on display at WCA through May 28. The show will move to the Ukiah Art Center for June, and show at the Gualala Art Center in July. WCA gallery hours are Friday-Sunday, 11 am until 5 pm. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org or call 707-459-1726.

"The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon": Willits Charter School's first full-length play at the new Performing Arts Complex: "The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon," continues Fridays and Saturdays at 7 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm, through May 28. By Don Zoldis, directed by Billy Hetherington. A "wild romp through all the Brothers Grimm fairy tales ... this enchanting play will transport you to a world of magic and wonder!" Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. \$10 adults, \$5 under 18. Tickets will be available at the school, 30 minutes prior to the show start. "Bring the whole family down for this hilarity and support the next generation of talented performers!"



Combining text and vibrant artwork on Mendocino County, and it offers both residents and visitors an immersive experience. It has featured our speakers for several years, and a variety of local artists' interpretation and use. It's time to see this new traveling exhibit, artists' interpretations of living with cannabis the last 50 years, on display at WCA through May 28. The show will move to the Ukiah Art Center for June, and show at the Gualala Art Center in July. WCA gallery hours are Friday-Sunday, 11 am until 5 pm. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org or call 707-459-1726.

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library
Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. Join us in the children's area of the library."

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Tuesdays, 11 am to noon. "We will meet in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a cup of joe."

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

Writer's Block Group: Wednesdays, from 11 am to noon. "Open to young-adult and adult writers to share their ideas and writings in an environment of supportive and creative suggestions and feedback." Hosted by Librarian Benjamin MacBean. Willits Library meeting room.

Games at the Library: First and third Fridays of the month, 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Open Source Design, Artistic Expression, and Engineering Club: Now on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month, 11 am to noon. "Open to everyone with an interest in open source and everyone who wants to develop their creative and engineering skills."

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie: A local Mendocino County jam band, "sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community." Friday, May 26 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, May 27

South Main Block Party and Car & Truck Show: Join South Main Street businesses for parking lot sales and fun families activities like a bounce house, dunk tank and food, as well as car, truck and motorcycle shows. Saturday, May 27 from 10 am to 4 pm, at Nor Crawl and Willits Power Equipment. Store sales at 101 Trailer.

'Quilty Pleasures': Long Valley Quilters' annual Free Quilt Show at the Fat Quail Quilt Shop, 44550 Highway 101 in Laytonville, is set for Saturday, May 27 from 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, May 28, from 11 am to 3:30 pm. More than 60 items on display; quilts for sale; plus raffle baskets and a quilt raffle, with raffle proceeds going to scholarships for local student. Fire-roasted pizza available next door. For more info, entry form and map, visit www.fatquail.com or call 707-984-6966.



"Paws and Tales": Animal-themed story time at the Willits Library on the last Saturday of the month, with special guest, Casey the therapy dog. All ages welcome. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

"Sushi Roll Demonstration": Willits Library presents this workshop on Saturday, May 27 from 2 to 3 pm, at the Willits branch, 390 East Commercial. "Hatake Farm Kitchen Ghost Restaurant's chef, Ryo Muto, will explain the process, ingredients, and demonstrate the art of making the perfect sushi roll. Scrumptious samples will be available." Info: 707-459-5908.

"The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon": Willits Charter School presents "a wild romp through the Brothers Grimm fairy tales." Saturday, May 27 at 7 pm. See May 26 listing for details.

2MuchFun! at Szechuan Restaurant: Musical duo Paul Haley and Dave Pierce will be rocking the hits of the '60s and '70s at Szechuan Asian Restaurant, 47 East Mendocino Avenue, Saturday, May 27, 6 to 8 pm.

Band at Shanachie Pub: "Stevie is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist whose roots go back to the vibrant East Bay punk scene of the 1970s." Saturday, May 27, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.



Steve Cornell

Willits Chamber of Commerce presents the 2023 Car & Bike show, Sunday, May 28 at Rec Grove Park. Free admission. The festivities start with a Pancake Breakfast, from 7 to 10 am. \$12; \$7 children; free for kids under 6. The classic cars, motorcycles, lowriders and more will be on display from 10 am to 3 pm. Call 707-459-7910 for more information.

Grange Pancake Breakfast: "All you can eat pancakes (choose our Sourdough Wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or Gluten-free), Beeler's Quality Bacon, Organic Local Farm Fresh Eggs, Real Butter, Juice, Organic Coffee or Tea." Sunday, May 28 from 8 to 11 am, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. \$10, \$9 for seniors, \$5 children under 10. Also: extra sides of Organic Fruit \$2, Amish Organic Maple Syrup \$1, Fresh-made fruit syrup \$1, Extra Beeler's Bacon \$1.

'Quilty Pleasures': Long Valley Quilters' annual Free Quilt Show at the Fat Quail Quilt Shop, 44550 Highway 101 in Laytonville, is set for Saturday, May 27 from 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, May 28, from 11 am to 3:30 pm. See Saturday, May 27 listing for more details.

"The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon": Willits Charter School presents "a wild romp through the Brothers Grimm fairy tales." Closing show: Sunday, May 28 at 2 pm. See May 26 listing for details.

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day Ceremonies 2023: American Legion Post 174 will conduct memorial ceremonies on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, at Willits Cemetery at 10 am (Highway 20 West) and at Little Lake Cemetery at 11 am (East Hill Road). "Please join us as we pay tribute to our departed comrades in arms."



from 12 noon to 2 pm. "Tight harmonies and original interpretation are our specialty. Enjoy a Brickhouse Coffee break with Twining Time to entertain you."

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market outdoors for the season on Main Street at the old Rexall parking lot. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales" story time from 3:30 to 4 pm.

Friday, June 2

"Hymn to Her" at WCT: This locally written production about the evolution of love and romance over the past 400 years in America, written by Mike A'Dair, opens at the

Quilty Pleasures 2023

Free Quilt Show Presented By

Long Valley Quilters
Saturday May 27th 10-4
Sunday May 28th 11-3:30

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Raffle Baskets/Quilt Raffle
Fire-Roasted Pizza

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2023 POTTER VALLEY SPRING FESTIVAL AND RODEO SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Location	Admission
TBA	TBA	Rodeo Queen Competition	Rodeo Grounds	FREE
Friday, May 26th	4:00 pm	Junior Rodeo Slack	Rodeo Grounds	FREE
Saturday, May 27th	11:00 am	Main Street Parade "It's Tiki Time!"	Main Street	FREE
	12:00 pm	Potter Valley Volunteer Fire Dept. Chicken BBQ	Main Street	
	8:00 am	Potter Valley Jr. Rodeo Slack		
	1:00 pm	Wood Cutting Competition followed by AX Throw		
	1:00 pm	Junior Rodeo Performance	Rodeo Grounds	*\$15 all day Saturday Pass Children 10 yrs. & under FREE
Sunday, May 28th	6:00 pm	Ranch Bronc & Bull Riding Chute Out		
	8:00 pm	Starlite Dance Featuring "Waylon and the Wildcats"		
	7:00 am	Cowboy Church with Pastor Greg Stephenson		FREE
Monday, May 29th	8:00 am	CCPRA & Local Rodeo Slack		
	11:30 am	Beef & Lamb BBQ	Rodeo Grounds	*\$15 all day Sunday Pass Children 10 yrs. & under FREE \$15 BBQ
1:00 pm	2023 CCPRA & Local Rodeo Produced by: West Coast Rodeo Co. Children's Animal Scramble			
9:00 am	Memorial Day Service	Potter Valley Cemetery		FREE

*Presold Tickets are \$13 for Saturday tickets and \$13 for Sunday tickets and may be purchased from our Rodeo Queen Contestants. Please visit www.pottervalleyrodeo.com for more information.

Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane, on Friday June 2. The show is comprised of seven one-act plays set in a sequence of various locations and times between 1640 and 1670; directed two each by Jeff Shipp, Elk McCarthy and Garrett Moore, with one play directed by playwright A'Dair. Runs Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm, through June 11. \$20; tickets are available at wctperformingsartscenter.org, and at the door.

Saturday, June 3

Willits Junior Horsemen's Playday: the first of two Junior Horsemen's Buckle Series events at the Willits Horsemen's Arena, Saturday, June 3 and Saturday, June 25. Featuring Cloverleaf Barrels, Washington Poles, Speedball, Dollar Bill Race, Single Stake, Steer Daubing and Keyhole. Starts at 9 am. The Juniors event is open to the public to come and watch. For entry form and more info about signing up as a competitor, visit "Willits Junior Horseman's Association" on Facebook, or call Mary at 707-354-0112.

"Hymn to Her" at WCT: Seven one-act plays at the Willits Community Theatre about the evolution of love and romance over the past 400 years in America, written by Mike A'Dair. Saturday, June 3 at 7:30 pm. \$20. See Friday, June 2 listing for details.

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County. "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear." Saturday, June 3 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.



Sunday, June 4

Willits Horsemen's Association BBQ & Rodeo Playday: Back in full swing with the big BBQ, a barrel race, the main rodeo event, and an added cornhole tournament, w/ entry at \$100/team. To enter the cornhole tournament, call Paul Riley, 707-272-6261. The barbecue starts at 11 am, and BBQ tickets for adults are \$20 each and \$10 each for children under 10. The rodeo starts at 1:30 pm and is free for spectators to attend. Rodeo events include: Breakaway Roping, Team Roping, Steer Daubing, Barrel Racing, Steer Stopping, Pole Bending, Goat Tying, and Hide Race. Free events include a Stick Horse race and the Boot Scootin' Boogie (kids only). For entry form and general rodeo info, visit "Willits Horsemen's Association, Inc." on Facebook or call Karen at 707-529-6884.

"Hymn to Her" at WCT: Seven one-act plays at the Willits Community Theatre about the evolution of love and romance over the past 400 years in America, written by Mike A'Dair. Sunday, June 4 matinee at 2 pm. \$20. See Friday, June 2 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events
Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

Saturday Scramble: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, hosted by Tyler B. Bring any instrument you can play and sign up to perform a 15-minute set with other local musicians. "Meet new musicians, discover new genres and explore your creativity!"

Tyler Grass & The Sherwood Mountain Boys: Held first and third Thursday evenings in May at 7 pm. "Come check out some of our favorite locals playing bluegrass & more!"

Bluegrass String Jam: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm – welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, "so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in!"

OCEAN AIR ARTISAN'S MARKET

May 27th 11-3
at **GOODLIFE CAFE & BAKERY**
10483 Lansing St. Mendocino

Live music on the patio!

Mendocino made treasures, eclectic creations, jewelry, art, candles and gifts.

Info @ 607-437-8465

FREE ADMISSION

Pancake breakfast 7am-10am
Adults \$12, Children \$7 Under 6 free

2023 CAR & BIKE SHOW
May 28, 2023
Recreation Grove Park, Willits, CA

Car Show 10am-3pm

Classic Cars, Motorcycles, Lowriders and more!

Call (707) 459-7910 for information




Ongoing Events

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every week on Mondays, 6:30 pm, at the Muse in Willits, 30 East San Francisco Street. More info: 707-354-1866.

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Fridays at 7 pm. At St. Francis of the Redwoods Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

Living Jukebox at Brickhouse: Join Richard "2Trees" Jeske and Don Willis for some songs you might know, from rock to country to R&B. Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 12 to 2 pm at Brickhouse Coffee, corner of Main Street and Commercial.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack lunches served at the City Park (or across the street in case of rain) every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm. Come early to be assured a lunch! Provided by various churches and community organizations.

Shuffleboard Sunday at Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Viny: "Sign-ups start at 4 pm. Game starts at 4:45 pm. \$5 sign-up fee, teams of two, winner takes the pot! We'll have the games on all day. Beer, wine, pizza, we've got everything you need!" Flying Dog Wood Pizza, 65 South Main Street.

The Redwood Empire Food Bank: Twice-monthly drive-thru food distribution in Willits, second and fourth Thursdays of the month, located in the parking lot of the soccer and baseball fields, 9:30 to 11:30 am. Groceries to go, senior basket (for low-income seniors 60 or older), and diapers.

"Garraoke" at Diggers Bar: Karaoke night the second and fourth Friday of every month, with host and DJ Garrett Moore. "From 8 pm to midnight, then get down until closing!" Diggers Bar, 244 South Main Street.

Willits Boules Club, Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 pm: The outdoor boules course is located across the street from the Willits Skate Park. Info: bbruneau@bbruneau.com.

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers a free karate program for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 pm. Beginner to intermediate group, youth 7 years old and above. There is an annual \$20 SAL insurance/registration fee (waivable). For more info call or text Mike Tobin Sensei at 354-0565. Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street.

Learn how to PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM WILDFIRE!

You are invited to a free presentation by Yana Valachovic, a national expert on preparing for wildfires. Smart choices about materials and design help buildings withstand wildfires – let Yana tell you how to protect your own property:

- Discover the science of how wildfires threaten your home.
- Learn how simple, inexpensive changes can make all the difference in whether or not your home will survive a wildfire.
- See examples from fires throughout California and Colorado, and what we've learned from their experience.

Thursday, May 25 at 6:00 pm
City Council Chambers
Ukiah Civic Center
300 Serrano Ave., Ukiah

Enter a drawing for \$100 gift cards from Mendo Mill and Friedman's!

Yana Valachovic is a forest scientist and registered professional forester, an extension agent at the University of California since 2000, and a leader in developing and delivering local and state strategies to improve wildfire resilience. Much of her work has focused on wildfire mitigation; she has published papers on wildfire behavior, including how it interacts with home and landscape design. She has also been active in developing state and local policy as a technical resource for fire management, forest management, home building, and defensible space legislation.

Brought to you by the Western Hills Fire Safe Council and co-sponsored by the:

Fire Safe Council, Community Foundation, City of Ukiah

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church
803 Coast Street
P.O. Box 489, Willits
707-303-5456
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Burton Jenigan
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

Church of Christ
"What must we do to be saved?"
Acts 2:37
1095 S. Main St., Willits
(next to Super 8)
(707) 459-5023
Sunday Bible Study-10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service-
6-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study-
7-8:00 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
265 Margie Drive
Willits, CA 95490
ALL ARE WELCOME
Sacrament Meeting
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom
• Sound of Soul events
• Membership Discourses
• Spiritual Discussions
• ECK Light & Sound Services
More information?
Call 530-224-8703
www.eckankar.org

Grace Community Church
Celebrating Life In Christ
25 Hazel Street, Willits
Modified Worship Service
10 a.m.
Other ministries suspended for now.
For appointments call:
(707) 459-3106

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandanadam
Mass times:
Confessions by appointment:
459-2252
Sunday Mass inside:
9:00 a.m. English
10:30 a.m. Spanish
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Covid guidelines apply.
We welcome All Walks of Faith

St. Francis Episcopal Church
1 North Main Street, Willits
707-272-0177
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.
In-person and on Zoom
Call for information.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

St. John Lutheran Church
Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
707-459-5714
Friendly, open worship
Saturdays
Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
Zoom Transmission Available.
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
399 W. Mendocino Ave.
All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist Church
Labyrinth and Peace Garden
A place to find comfort where all are welcome
Pastor Rosemary Landry
Sunday Worship at 10:30 am
286 School St. (at Pine)
707-459-2855
wumc@willitsonline.com
www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook/willitsumc

If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com



Devoted Marsha

Marsha enjoys going for walks, and she has wonderful leash manners. She is mellow indoors and likes to be close to her people. Marsha would like an active family with plenty of outdoor space for her to explore. German shepherd dogs are smart, loyal, and all around wonderful dogs.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Marsha or our other feline and canine guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com.



Perfect Periwinkle

Periwinkle is the new girl in town! You might remember her from Violet's litter of pups named after the color purple. Periwinkle was adopted as a young pup and is a year old now. Sadly her home didn't work out due to housing issues. Periwinkle is back on the scene and ready for a new adventure! This gorgeous gal had a play date with Jack today and had a lot of fun. She is super sweet with people too! Periwinkle lived with kiddos and seems like a well-rounded dog. Come see her soon!

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. We are open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.



Joyful Mariah

Mariah is an enthusiastic partner. If you are ready, she is egging you on, eager to enjoy the great outdoors and many adventures by your side, and then come home and snuggle! She is a hearty and happy dog, wanting to please, though best to do some training after some playtime! She loves other dogs and is an altogether beguiling girl.

To learn more about Mariah or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.



Please leave me WILD!

Submitted by Mendocino Fawn Rehab

- Fawns naturally lie still and lower their head when approached. The fawn is not sick or injured, he is simply trying to hide.
- Mothers will leave their fawn for several hours at a time while she forages for food. She will not return to her fawn if humans are in the area.
- If the fawn is tucked away and laying quietly, leave it alone and leave the area!
- If you find a fawn with open wounds, broken bones, that is crying out for an extended time or laying flat on its side, it may need help.
- Please call Mendocino Fawn Rehab for advice before moving a fawn. 951-852-0513 or 707-984-6363.

23 REDWOOD EMPIRE SPRING FAIR

THURSTON AUTO PLAZA

FREE FAIR ADMISSION!

JUNE 2-4, 2023
*Grandstands require a ticket

SCHEDULE
ALL SHOWS START AT 6 PM
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
REDWOODEMPIREFAIR.COM

FRIDAY, JUNE 2
Live music by:
FAKE NEWS BAND
Grandstand event:
MONSTER TRUCKS MUGG BOGGS

SATURDAY, JUNE 3
Live music by:
WAREHOUSE 21
Grandstand event:
MONSTER TRUCKS MUGG BOGGS BOAT RACES

SUNDAY, JUNE 4
Live music by:
LUIS PEREZ Y LA NUEVA HISTORIA & LOS TRAVIESOS DE LA COSTA

FREE FAIR ADMISSION!
Gates open at 3pm on Friday Noon on Saturday and Sunday
PARKING \$10
*Grandstands require a ticket

PRE-SALE MONSTER TRUCK TICKETS
Available at all Mendo Mill stores in Mendocino County

PRE-SALE CARNIVAL WRISTBAND TICKETS
Available at Mendo Mill Stores in Ukiah, Willits, Fort Bragg, Ukiah Taco Bell, Raley's, Chavez Market and Creative Workshop.

\$30 EACH
(\$37 AT THE FAIR)

Save money and the wait in line! Buy your grandstand show and carnival wristband tickets early!

For more information about the Spring Fair, visit us online at www.redwoodempirefair.com

707.459.5193

JOHN FORD RANCH
RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

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CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC.

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Septic & Water Systems - Site Development
Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery

24900 N. HWY 101 IN WILLITS GARMANCONST@GMAIL.COM

CalFresh

Is a food assistance program. You can be on Social Security, have money in the bank, own cars and still receive CalFresh benefits. Call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment to see if you qualify.

707-459-6826

HARBAL SENIOR CENTER
SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Marc Komer
Legal Document Assistant
An Affordable Non-Attorney Service
(707) 459-2775
245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.

Mendocino County invites applications for:

Agricultural/Measurement Standards Specialist I/II/III
\$48,880 - \$72,238
Chief Planner
\$95,846 - \$116,500
Community Services Officer
\$48,984 - \$59,529
Cook
\$47,403 - \$57,595
Corrections Deputy
\$54,184 - \$65,873
Deputy District Attorney I/II/III
\$76,419 - \$122,824
Deputy Probation Officer I/II
\$51,937 - \$69,617
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
\$62,628 - \$87,214
Eligibility Specialist Supervisor
\$60,236 - \$73,216
Environmental Compliance Specialist
\$62,920 - \$76,502
Heavy Equipment Mechanic
\$51,376 - \$62,441
Juvenile Corrections Officer
\$50,710 - \$61,630
Juvenile Corrections Officer - Extra-Help
\$24.38 - \$28.22 hourly
Mental Health Clinician I/II
\$59,737 - \$84,011
Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist
\$56,825 - \$69,076
Retirement Specialist I
\$44,844 - \$54,516
Road Maintenance Supervisor II - Bridge
\$65,936 - \$80,142
Senior Public Health Nurse
\$100,297 - \$121,908
Social Worker I/II/III/IV A-D
\$48,942 - \$92,206
Social Worker Supervisor I/II A-C
\$70,387 - \$99,028
Substance Abuse Counselor I/II
\$45,739 - \$64,376
Supervising Public Health Nurse
\$109,720 - \$133,390
Vocational Assistant
\$37,024 - \$38,875

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca
EOE

Willits Weekly
This business card-sized ad space is only \$30 per week! Someone could be reading YOUR ad right now!

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LEGAL NOTICES

WW435
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Galen Hathaway, aka Galen R. Hathaway, Decedent
Case No. 23PR00080

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: GALEN HATHAWAY, aka GALEN R. HATHAWAY

2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Steven P. Hathaway in the Superior Court of California County of: Mendocino

3. The Petition for Probate requests that: Steven P. Hathaway be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

4. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

5. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an Interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

6. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: **Date: June 15, 2023, Time: 2:00 p.m. Dept: TM**
Address of Court: 700 So. Franklin St., Ft. Bragg, CA 95437

7. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

8. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

9. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

10. Attorney for petitioner: Christopher J. Neary (#69220)/ Jennifer M. O'Brien (#278821), Neary and O'Brien, 110 So. Main St., Ste C, Willits CA 95490. Telephone: 707-459-5551
Publication Dates: May 25, June 1, June 8, 2023

The rest of **Committee** [From page 1

historical character of site and the preservation and integration of natural features;

- Is publicly accessible, particularly with respect to handicapped areas;
- Can be properly installed, placed to be seen, and displayed with patron safety in mind;
- Can be displayed in such a manner to prevent theft and vandalism;
- Is not government endorsement of religion in violation of the Establishment Clause of the federal and state Constitutions;
- Would not, when displayed, create a hostile work environment for public employees; and
- Does not depict graphic violence or overt sexual activity.

After some discussion and comments about whether city policy required members of different kinds of committees to be residents of Willits proper, the council voted 5-0 to appoint all four applicants to the advisory committee. Three applicants are city residents, and Gary Martin, director of the Willits Center for the Arts, lives in the 95490 zip code.

City Manager Brian Bender called Martin's experience and commitment to promoting arts in the City of Willits "second to none."

City Attorney Jim Lance reported that the policy of the former Willits Cultural Arts Commission called for "a preference" that members be city residents, but not a requirement.

Councilmember Sabrina Rodriguez said thank you to those who volunteered to serve on the public art committee, and commented that those who'd submitted applications were all well-qualified.

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8	2	7	5	3	4	1	6	9
9	5	6	7	2	1	3	8	4
1	4	3	8	9	6	7	5	2

CLASSIFIEDS

Computer Help
Need help with your computer? PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email uicearhball@gmail.com

Help Wanted
Senior Center is hiring an office assistant, must be proficient in Microsoft Office/Publisher (40 hours weekly). Email resume with 3 references to willitscenter.com or stop by the senior center to pick up a job description and drop off your resume.

Counseling / Psychotherapy
Accepting new MediCal clients, Divora Stern LCSW, sliding scale available. PHONE SESSIONS only: 707-354-9911. No need for computer / travel, just call. 22-year private practice, CBT, energy psychology, and alternative modalities.

Indoor Yard Sale
Giant Indoor Yard Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). **Saturday, June 3** from 8 am to 4 pm

John Ford Ranch Beef
John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$375.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$160.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

For Sale
2019 Suzuki 4x4 400FS, 356 miles. Like new, 1 owner. \$3,500. 707-456-9033.

For Sale
Two Lionel train sets with "trailers", 1 NYC Limited complete in box.1: Pennys freight 4/6/4/ with 9 cars. Multiple switch tracks, accessories, buildings, etc. \$400.00 firm. Call John @ 707-459-0460.

Help Wanted
Retail Associate/Loader; \$16-\$18/hr DOE; Seasonal FT; 9a-5p; employee discount; business location is in Covelo; if interested, please contact mandmfeedgm@gmail.com

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/tp>

Classified ads are just \$15 for 30 words for 2 weeks!

Committee [From page 1

level for purposes of making a permanent cell assignment in the available state prison facilities.

The defendant's formal sentencing date has been calendared for July 27, 2023 in Department A at 9 am in the Ukiah courthouse.

The law enforcement agencies that developed the evidence in support of Monday's verdicts are the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, the California Highway Patrol, the California Department of Justice forensic laboratory, and the District Attorney's own Bureau of Investigations.

A special note of appreciation is extended to Gregg Stutchman, a forensic audio/video and photography expert from Napa, for his work on the case.

The attorney who presented the people's evidence to the jury and argued for the verdicts that were returned was Assistant District Attorney Dale P. Trigg.

Mendocino County Superior Court Judge Keith Faulder presided over the nine-day trial that spread over parts of three weeks. Judge Faulder will also be the sentencing judge in July.

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Members of the community gather together to celebrate at Howard Hospital's 95th birthday party. HMH's Holly Sears made the custom rose blanket for Seabiscuit. HMH volunteer Laurie Howard was thrilled to have a tasty cupcake during the birthday celebration.

Happy Birthday, Howard Hospital

Howard Memorial Hospital celebrates 95 years with cake and festivity at Roots Restaurant

Folks from Howard Hospital, the Howard Foundation, Little Lake Fire Department, Willits Chamber of Commerce, Willits Rotary, and other members of the public and the Willits community came together to celebrate the 95th birthday of Howard Hospital last week. Attendees enjoyed cake, speeches, and golden decorations to mark the occasion.



At left: Judson Howe, president of the North Coast Network of Adventist Health, Linda Givens, administrator, and Arnie Mello, executive director of the Frank R. Howard Foundation, get ready to cut the cake.



Photos by Maureen Jennison



Photos by Mathew Caine

Willits Chamber of Commerce 41st Annual Car & Bike Show May 28 at the Rec Grove

Posted by Willits Chamber of Commerce

The 41st Annual Willits Chamber of Commerce Car & Bike Show is set for Memorial Day Sunday, May 28 at the Recreation Grove Park. The day begins at 7 am with a Lions Club Pancake Breakfast, served through 10 am. Everybody is welcome: breakfast is \$12 adults; \$7 children; kids under 6 are free.

The Car & Bike Show will be held from 10 am to 3 pm

and will include entries of all makes and models, including classic cars, motorcycles, lowriders and more, with entries representing all Western states. Admission to the show is free. Willits Chamber will staff a food concession, and there will be various vendors included in the show.

The Mendocino County Museum will be open from 10 am to 4 pm (across the street from the Rec Grove) with



Above, from left: The winners of the day's trophies line up in front of the bandstand. Alan Grossman and Debbie Frank pose with Grossman's 1958 BMW Isotta with a 300cc engine. A young one checks out a mini hot rod.

free admission, for family enjoyment of the latest exhibit "Gadgets Galore! Transforming the American Household." The Roots of Motive Power facility next door to the Museum will be providing free steam engine train rides.

For more info, contact the Willits Chamber of Commerce at 707-459-7910 or info@willits.org.

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South Main
BLOCK PARTY and
CAR & TRUCK SHOW

Join South Main Street businesses for parking lot sales, fun family activities. Bounce house, dunk tank, food, as well as car, truck, and motorcycle shows.

PARTY TAKES PLACE AT
NORCRAWL & WILLITS POWER EQUIPMENT

STORE SALES AT
IOI TRAILER & RV SUPPLY

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023
FROM 10AM - 4PM

Willits Horsemen's Rodeo &
BARBECUE
JUNE 4TH
2023

Saturday June 3rd
9:00 am..... Willits Jr. Horsemen's Playday

Sunday June 4th
7:30 am..... Sign-Up/Check-In
9:00 am..... Jackpot Barrel
11:30 am..... Beef & Rib BBQ
Adults \$20.00 Children \$10.00
Rodeo Events for All Ages - Free to Spectators
1:30 pm..... Rodeo Grand Entry

For more information on:
Junior Play Day - Mary (707) 354-0112 • General Info/Rodeo - Karen (707) 529-6884
Jackpot Barrel Racing - Nicol Kunka (916) 996-7126

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Mendocino College Graduates Class of 2023

Willits: Jessica Brown, Kelly Fischbach, Caryn Fisher, John Foucault, Shanna Gayski, Carolina Gutierrez, Samantha Jackson, Hannah Kolkmann, Leslie Leon, Rocio Lopez Leon, Hillary Luciani, Yolanda Luque, Monica Maciel Aguilar, Heath Moen, Melissa Newell, Karina Nieto, Ruby Nieto, Amanda Owen, Pauline Paniagua, Cody Pedersen, July Perez-Perreault, Brittany Powers, Jett Seaton, Playovari Settanawongs, Reannon Starks, Shelby Tubbs, David Vega, Emmanuel Villegas, and Debra Weisman.

North County (Covelo, Laytonville, Leggett, Branscomb): Mila Ardolino, Bailey Bienvenu, Renae Britton-Cano, Otis Brotherton, Alyssa Craver, Emily Escareno, Melinda Lane, Terria Mitchell, Mixtli Oseguera Diaz, Amy Tillotson, and Shannon Whitewolf

Redwood Valley and Potter Valley: Keely Allred, Evelia Alvarez Rodriguez, Nora Bertorelli, Shelby Ford, Melissa Fuentes, Sianna Guevara, Gina Henebury, Laura Henebury, Amanda Kosek, Jessica Lancaster, Guadalupe Landeros, Kaitlin Manning, Morgan Nelson, Heidi Peterman, Melissa Ram, Richard Rolfe, Kelly Shook-Crumrine and Cristian Villalobos.

Ukiah: Fernando Adams, Katia Alvarado, Andrew Anthony, Mishael Araza Brummett, Ashley Ashford, Christian Avalos, Rodrigo Avalos, Stacy Baden, Oscar Ballesteros, Brooke Barrett, Sophia Becket, Janella Bejer, Reyna Benites, Bridgette Bjorklund, Maria Ceja Valencia, Miriam Ceja Valencia, Douglas Chadwick, Isidro Chavez, Kayla Cooper, Alejandro Corona Vargas, Meghan Cosman, Melanie Dahlinghaus, Eduardo Diaz, Melissa Duenas, Christa Fidler, Amanda Ford, Ana Franco, Leyra Fuentes, Gibelli Garcia, Amanda Giudice, Marilyn Gonzalez, Jose Gonzalez, Nancy Gonzalez, Ricardo Gonzalez, Anthony Gourn, Renee Granados, Jordan Grider, Benjamin Henthorne, Jorge Hernandez, Siomara Hernandez Rubio, Taryn Heustis, Lindzie Hoven, Jonathan Hunt, Hjalmar Isabelle, Noe Jacinto, Katie Jauregui, Aris Krasts, Dakota Laiwa-Mckay, Chloe Larramendy, Dax Leblanc, Jennifer Lefevre, Lin Lin, Zuri Lopez, Marissa Lopez Gonzalez, Joana Lugo-Ramirez, Logan MacMillan, Jacqueline Martinez, Sven McGarvey, Jonathan Mendez, Madison Miles, Madeline Miller, Tacara Miller, Mario Miramontes, Sara Moreno, Melanie Muniz, Thu Huong Nguyen, Ozzy Niderost, Alexander Nielson, Viviana Nunez Molina, Juan De Dios Ochoa Gonzalez, Magdalene Peacock-Butler, Tori Perreault, Justin Persky, Grace Poitras, Kirstin Rafferty, Gabrielle Ramirez, Monica Ramirez, Andrea Ramirez-Gonzalez, Rigoberto Ramos, Trenton Ramos, Joana Raya, Melissa Rego, Kimberly Renteria, Crystal Reyes-Chavez, Crystal Rodriguez, Erica Rodriguez, Erik Salcedo, Marissa Sanchez, Sebastian Santiago, Esther Schafer, Jeromey Schwarm, Rachel Scoggins, Monte Sharp, Jessica Smith, Amanda Snodgrass, Jennifer Stickels, Dalton Thurston, Caylin Tipton, Paloma Toxqui, Christian Vazquez, Erenid Vazquez-Duenas, Heather Whitehurst, Cassandra Witter, Miguel Zaragosa, Yoana Zepeda Garcia, and Qin Zhao.

Coast (Fort Bragg, Comptche, Gualala, Little River, Mendocino, Point Arena): Jessica Bermudez, Maria Bermudez, Natasha Birchfield, Elizabeth Brown, Heather Burkhardt, Jaime Calvino-Pichierrri, Monserath Chan, Erida Diaz-Pimentel, Olivia Espinoza Viscencio, Ana Flores, Sophia Gagnon, John Huxsoll, Lia Kohler, Shelton Loomis, Delia Macias Ramirez, Naomi Mannonen, Makena Martin, Gayle McMartin-Rosenquist, Rebecca Morse, Evelyn Palomar, Belle Pena, Jordan Price, Shel Saunders, Makayla Saunders, Alexandria Smith, Lea Stedman, Veronica Stevenson, Arissa Tupper, Linus Williams, and Marion Zinn.

Anderson Valley (Philo, Boonville): Glad Donahue, Alexis Duckett, Alan Gonzalez, Grecia Herrera, Vanessa Perez, and Mauricio Sanchez.

Lake County (Clearlake, Clearlake Oaks, Kelseyville, Cobb, Lakeport, Nice, Upper Lake, Lower Lake, Lucerne, Glenhaven, Finley): Roberta Actor, Esgar Aguirre, Christine Allen, Daisy Arias, Sarah Arledge, Lisa Baker, Ashley Barrett, Maxwell Beard, Lexy Beyer, Harmony Byrd, Alejandra Castellanos, Jozlyn Chappelle, Lisette Chavira, Gudelia Cisneros-Whiterock, Stephanie Conklin, Jordan Crouch, Bianca Cruz, Estela Delgado, Auna Driver, Ashlee Duncan, Nicole Duncan, Delaina Erickson, Katie Finley, Sayer Ford, Bryce Forgey, Adasha Garcia, Yvette Gomez, Alexander Halverson, Matthew Harris, Niklas Helms, Kenneth Hodges, Alexandria Hollander, Francis Howland, Rayonna Jamison-Collins, Heidi Jeffers, Crystal Jimenez Mora, Camille Jones, Kayla Kalandros, Alejandro King Lopez, Paris Klier, Yasmin Lara, Ashley Laws, Cassandra Legg, Colton Leiferman, Crystal Lopez, Tommy Lopez, Irma Lopez-Ramirez, Enrique Martinez, Mia Martinez, Nila McCarthy, Mercedes McCombs, Monroe Mcdarment, Samantha Morfin, Laura Nava, Dionicio Navarro, Mary Nguyen, Ysone Nunez, Sabrina Odonnell, Sara Oden, Joleen Pryal, Yvonne Quintero, Alicia Ramirez, Gabriella Ramirez, Michaela Riggins, Nathan Ring, Shyann Rivera, Kelly Roberts, Natalio Rojas, Jordan Rojas-Libby, Sharon Rosas, Sheri Saavedra, Cole Saiz, Alana Sanchez, Amy Sant, Shelby Sapeta, Griffin Sentz, Emma Stewart, Martha Stone, Cristen Swaney, Maria Guadalupe Tejeda, Lindsey Torrey-Silva, Stephanie Venegas, Megan Vidra, Blair Walker, Austin, Watkins, Hailey Weed, Jesse Wiles, Megan Wold, Jessica Wolfe, Logan Wood, Hailey Wright, and Javier Yanez.

South Mendocino County / Sonoma County (Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Hopland, Cloverdale): Antoinette Alfaro, Angelina Cordova, Jennifer Fairbairn, Tania Figueroa-Lopez, Julianna Gibson, Hana Henderson, Jason King, Margaret Lagorio, Alexandra Langley, Emily Lopez, Brandon Macharia, Amanda Pheng Pha, Briju Rayamajhi, Sandra Rodriguez Zamora, Elena Romero, Sara Stoxen and Alice Watchorn.

Far out of the area (Alturas, Arlington, Chico, Colusa, Concord, Davis, Dixon, Emeryville, Eureka, Fresno, Las Vegas, Lincoln, Munster, Novato, Oakland, Orick, Redding, Reno, Riverside, South Lake Tahoe, Sacramento, Salinas, San Jose, San Pablo, and Sierraville): Aylin Castaneda, Jenieve Chan, Lucienne De Souza, Emma Elliott, Molly Gardenhire, Brock Griffin, Cheikh Gueye, Sharon Hammond, Donnie Johnson, Ana Juarez, Taylor Kramer, Anjali Lohia, Eric Lyss, Keeaira McKee, Brandon Mello, Michael Mercurio, Olivia Moonstone, James Nguyen, John Reardon, Mya Redding, Samantha Rojas Ledesma, William Scola, Veronica Segura, Amber Tunstall, Nevaeh Vance, Rachael Ward, and Jamie Wyatt.

List, cities of residency and name spellings provided by Mendocino College

The rest of Advocates

From page 2

provisional licensees in Mendocino County. The preparation of these site-specific environmental documents ... will be done for and under the direction of DCC."

The contract will go through July 1, 2024, though there will be an option to extend it if necessary until December 31, 2025.

Third District Supervisor John Haschak explained that the \$5 million total is a maximum amount, and some may be used for other purposes if not entirely spent up with the EIR contract.

When asked how many site-specific reviews would be covered under the contract, County Counsel Christian Curtis responded, "We didn't have an exact count, but it was in the neighborhood of 500 to 700 applications that were anticipated to fall within this grant program."

The county was awarded more than \$17.5 million in LJAGP funds from the state in late 2021 to help applicants get annual licensure in late 2021, and the new budget and "scope of work" plan approved Monday also allots some of that money for MCD staffing (around \$2.4 million), temporary contract planners (\$3.76 million), direct grants to applicants (\$4.8 million), satellite imagery funding (\$878,000), and various other tech and equipment upgrades.

The budget plan lays out spending the grant money through fiscal year 2024/25, and includes some money already spent this fiscal year, including around \$1 million for contract planners. \

The board approved a \$1.6 million contract with 4Leaf, Inc., earlier this year, and planners from that company are already working with applicants in the county.

While the amount of direct grant money for applicants was reduced significantly from the \$10.4 million initially proposed in an LJAGP budget plan last year, it was higher than the \$3.6 million laid out in a proposed plan from former MCD Director Kristin Nevedal in February of this year.

In addition, Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren pointed out that the benefits to applicants from the EIR and additional state assistance should help make up for the reduction in that direct grant money.

"I do want to say that I understand that this process has taken quite some time and been challenging for the applicants," said Mulheren. "And the initial 'scope of work' and the application for the direct grants was really meant to fund some of the work the applicants were going to need. So hopefully with moving forward with our collaboration with the state and through the EIR process, that will free up that really challenging and very expensive piece for the applicants."

"I just want for everybody to understand, and I believe that they do, that that is the reason why the direct grants were reduced by so much," she added. "Because I don't want people to think that that sentiment had changed, it's just that this is a more streamlined way to do it."

MCA Director Katz also spoke in support of the EIR plan, saying that the scope of the contract with Ascent should lead to it helping many county applicants.

"We sincerely appreciate this coming forward," said Katz. "And the details of the agreement, just for folks that might not understand what's being discussed, the EIR contract that is being asked for is going to include the coverage of the preparation of environmental documents by that agreement by that company."

"This is an excellent day for the Mendocino Cannabis community," he said later at the meeting. "The delays that have been plaguing us are freeing up, this pathway, working through this EIR, and being able to let operators know that the environmental documents that they will require to get to their annuals will be managed through this process, through this budget, through this grant, through this EIR and this contractor, is going to be a huge weight off of people's shoulders to understand that that's what's happening."

Katz and the MCA have been highly critical of the county cannabis program in the past few years, and

sent a 16-page letter to state officials in February detailing the problems and asking them to step in, titled, "Requesting Urgent Intervention to Prevent Mendocino Licensing Collapse."

As for the new urgency ordinance with amendments to "streamline [the] cannabis cultivation permitting processes" approved by the board Tuesday, statements in the beginning of that document summarize and explain the need for the changes.

"Whereas, the administrative burden of issuing permits under the current local regulation, including reviews and determinations that are duplicative or substantially identical to those performed by other agencies, has contributed to a substantial backlog of local permit applications," the ordinance reads, "and holders of state provisional cannabis cultivation licenses face imminent statutory deadlines to transition to annual licenses, which they cannot obtain while their local permit applications are still under review...."

"The board of supervisors hereby finds that the adoption of this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety," it summarized. "Changes to the county's current regulatory system for commercial cannabis cultivation are necessary to preserve the viability of pathways to state and local licensure and to encourage cannabis cultivation in a manner consistent with the county's protections for the environment."

Before that approval vote on Tuesday, Haschak praised the work of those who had contributed to crafting the "streamline" urgency ordinance.

"This was first heard in the General Government Committee on April 14," said Haschak, who is chair of that committee. "And I really appreciate the work of county supervisors' office, and the Mendocino Cannabis Department and the stakeholders, because I think this was a very collaborative approach and we're seeing the results of that. So thank you very much."

At the Monday afternoon discussion of the urgency ordinance, County Counsel Curtis said that the state DCC was also crucial in the creation of the document.

"I just want to thank everyone for all the work on this," he said. "I know staff has really worked quite hard. I know we've really gotten a lot of useful community input, and I particularly want to thank DCC, their willingness to work with us on this and the efforts that they've gone to I think have really made this possible in a way that we weren't entirely expecting. So it's really quite amazing that our state partners were able to help us turn something around so quickly."

Supervisor Mulheren responded to Curtis' assessment, saying: "Yes, I would second that wholeheartedly. We've probably done more in the last 60 days than has happened in the last six years. So I appreciate everybody's work as we move forward with righting this ship."

Cannabis department update

Supervisors Haschak and Mulheren also led a GGC meeting Monday morning focused on cannabis, featuring a monthly update from the Mendocino Cannabis Department.

That meeting also had a positive tone, though there were still plenty of suggestions, questions, and critiques from those in the audience.

County staff expressed some optimism about their plan to get applicants to their state annual licenses on time, despite a looming July 31 deadline when the environmental requirements for those licenses will be ramped up, and many applicants whose provisional licenses will be coming up for renewal in the next few months.

The May 22 MCD report showed that only six of the 125 who currently hold county permits have been able to obtain their state annual license through the DCC so far, while 114 have gotten state provisional licenses.

And there are still an additional 715 applicants in the county with "active commercial cannabis cultivation applications submitted to MCD" who have no permit yet, according to the May 22 report.

However, the May report said that the county now has 16 4Leaf contract planners working to help cannabis applicants, along with six MCD

planners, a chief planner, and senior planner.

In addition, the latest estimate in the May report for staff "review time" needed to process each application was 16 to 80 hours – a wide range, but still much less than the 150 to 200 hours per applicant previously estimated when Nevedal was director.

John Burkes, the "acting senior program manager on special assignment with the cannabis department" as he described himself, said that the newly formed collaboration with the DCC has already been very helpful for himself and the department.

"I have been in touch with our partners at the DCC over a number of things," he said. "Mostly my involvement has been around the [LJAGP] grant and the implementation of that and the scope of work associated with that."

"But I can say that the partnership has really benefited me personally in terms of really easy, clear, transparent communication," he added. "And we've been able to accomplish all of our goals in these really, really tight timelines with their assistance. So I've had a really positive experience working with them, and I look forward to doing it far into the future now that we are on this track."

Based on the discussions at the GGC meeting, there are clearly still many details and moving parts to iron out moving forward for the MCD, including what to do with those applicants already in the midst of the county environmental review, known as Appendix G, as the county prepares to switch to a process emphasizing the EIR and the DCC.

MCD Chief Planner Elora Babbini explained that they plan to continue on "two tracks" as they prepare for the transition.

"There are about 42 current Appendix Gs that we have in house, and we really are kind of on this two track pathway for review while we move to the streamlining and we have the EIR coming forward," she said. "My preference would be to still process those Appendix Gs once we have that other pathway in place. I am still moving forward as per board direction to process July, then August, then September, while we work through that."

"And so I don't want to pivot from where we're at right now because there's always the potential for things not to go that way," she added. "And so I want to really stick on our track right now of reviewing based on state license expiration."

Babbini said that the EIR eventually should help "the totality of our applicants for site-specific [California Environmental Quality Act] that are in the program, not just those that hold a provisional license or annual license currently," meaning that hundreds should benefit.

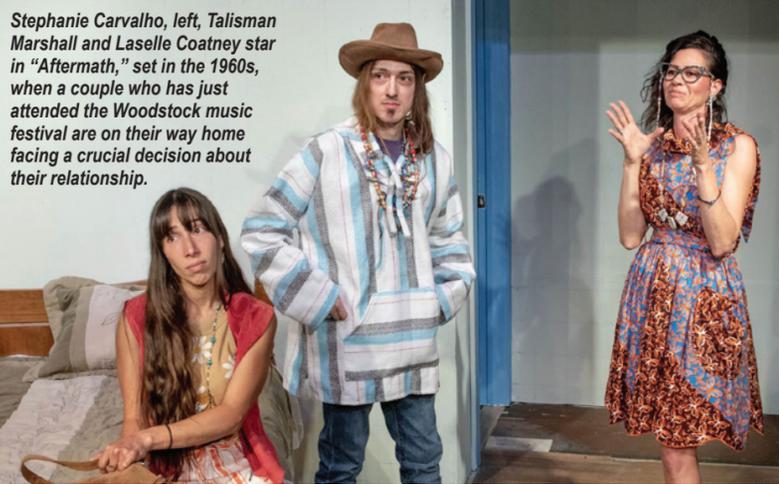
Attorney Hannah Nelson, who has worked for years with cannabis applicants and been a frequent critic of the county's program, had several suggestions for changes the MCD should consider, but still spoke in glowing terms about the new direction the county seemed to be taking.

"I just feel that at every single level, at every single part where everything is coming together, there has been more progress, more communication, more transparency, more problem solving, more taking into account suggestions," she said.

"There's still hiccups, there's still differences of viewing things and different considerations ... [but] I feel that my experience at every single level is a beautiful, remarkable thing, and I so much appreciate the hard work that it took at the policy makers level and the staff level at every step of the way."

In terms of working with the new 4Leaf planners, Nelson said there had been some difficulties, "but the responsiveness and the ability to work through them quickly has made all the difference in the world."

"It'll be a wonderful thing when things are so smooth that there aren't those kinds of hiccups, because it does take time and effort for all kinds of people involved," she said, "but it's a miracle to go at this warp speed into such a different universe.... Again, not to minimize the work we have ahead and that there may be differences of opinion, but it's so deeply appreciated, and all the hard work of everybody."



Stephanie Carvalho, left, Talisman Marshall and Laselle Coatney star in "Aftermath," set in the 1960s, when a couple who has just attended the Woodstock music festival are on their way home facing a crucial decision about their relationship.

Below: In the one-act play "Tupelo Honey," Talisman Marshall, left, and Tiffany Leigh-Logan face tough circumstances surviving as a couple immediately after the destruction wrought by the Civil War.

Premiere of 'Hymn to Her' at Willits Community Theatre June 2 to 11

Submitted by Willits Community Theatre

"Hymn to Her," a locally written production about the evolution of love and romance over the past 400 years in America, will open at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse on June 2 at 7:30 pm.

The show is comprised of seven one-act plays set in a sequence of various locations and times between 1640 and 2017. The plays are written by Mike A'Dair, and directed two each by Jeff Shipp, Elk McCarthy and Garrett Moore, with one play directed by the playwright A'Dair.

"When you take the long view," says A'Dair, "you can see that there have been quite a few changes in the evolution of love, romance and courtship over the past 400 years."

He adds that the action in "Hymn to Her" moves from a very strict and religious patriarchy, to a desperate romanticism after the Civil War, to a young relationship that points to a strong marriage and family orientation after the Second World War.

A'Dair admits, "During the 1960s, things get a little weird in relationships. Finally at the turn of the millennium, a couple has a tremendous fight, which brings the production to its surprising conclusion in 2017."

The cast of "Hymn to Her" includes Stephanie Carvalho, Laselle Coatney, Sarah France, Meg Gardner, BarbaraLee Lilker, Simantha Karp, Robin Kellerstrass, Tiffany Leigh-Logan, Talisman Marshall, Garrett Moore, Jeff Shipp, Allegra Rose Silveira and Joshua Sternberg.

Stage management is by Allegra Rose Silveira and Elk McCarthy, costumes are by Kathy Vellis, set design by Kevin H.C. Moore, set painting by Daniel Stewart, and lighting design by Cortlandt Wilson.

"Hymn to Her" will run Fridays, Saturday and Sundays for two weeks, opening on June 2 and closing on June 11. Tickets for all shows are \$20 and are available on the theater's website: www.wctperformingartscenter.org, and at the door.



Photos by Mathew Caine

The rest of Walk From page 5

The home that Monroe lost to the fire has been rebuilt using beams sawn from giant redwoods that were damaged and needed to come down. Hillsides full of dead trees can be seen from her house, interspersed with trees and shrubs which seem to have recovered fully from the wildfire. Her animals all survived the blaze. Although a number of sheep were killed by dogs before she was able to rebuild the fencing. Monroe is grateful for the land's recovery, and well aware of the need to learn to live with wildfire in the years to come.

A dozen or so hikers showed up bright and early to walk the rolling hills of Rancho Mariposa, which was lush with greenery and wildflowers. Artist and nature journalist Laura Corben was one of those hikers.

"Cathy knows her land so well," said Corben. "She pointed out which plants and trees had survived the fire, what was lost, and what has regrown. We saw a beautiful redwood grove that was scorched but had survived." Also on the walk was Kate Marianchild, who wrote "Secrets of the Oak Woodlands."

Another of the hikers was Ellen Drell, one of the founders of the Willits Environmental Center, who said that WEC members are intensely interested in understanding both short and long-term effects of wildfire on the landscape. "I was fascinated by Cathy's knowledge and Robin's insights. We have so much to learn about how to live with fire," said Drell.

Below, left: Cathy Monroe, left, and Ellen Drell at Rancho Mariposa. Below, right: Redwood beams, sawn from trees that were damaged or in an unsafe location due to fire, hold up the roof at Cathy Monroe's new home.

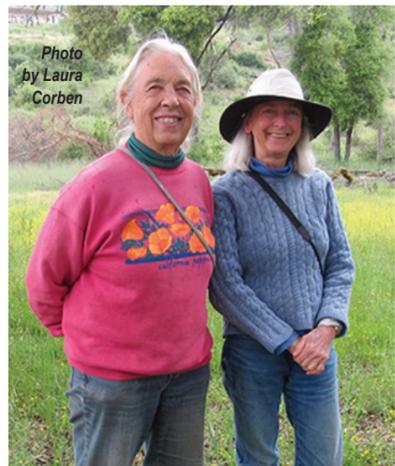


Photo by Laura Corben



Photo by Margi Gomez Guhde



Start the day off right with clean energy.



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